

Steering Committee

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Germantown Leadership Forum

March 2006

Dear Neighbor,

It is with great pleasure that I announce the second ***Germantown Leadership Forum!***

Our first year was a great success in bringing together community leaders and participants in discussions on issues facing our community including: education with MCPS Superintendent Jerry Weast and Board of Education Member Sharon Cox; public safety with Fire Chief Tom Carr and Police District Commander Evie Cahalen; and effective advocacy with County and State governments including County Executive Doug Duncan, then Council President Steve Silverman, and State Senators Rob Garagiola and P.J. Hogan. Participants have commented that the program was 'a wonderful start to cultivate and energize leadership in Germantown' and that it has 'put things in action.'

As a community leader in Germantown you provide a significant and vital role in the Upcounty region of Montgomery County. There is a need for community leaders and activists to be aware of each other's roles and functions and leverage each other's expertise to make our community work more effectively. We must cultivate these leaders and advocates to ensure the healthy growth and development of Germantown. Our goal is to continue to provide an opportunity for you to engage in issues that are important to our maturing community while developing leadership and building networks that will broaden and sustain the social fabric of our community.

The Steering Committee has worked hard to incorporate feedback from our inaugural year in crafting this year's seminars. This spring, the program will consist of approximately 30 participants who will kick-off the year with a mini-tour of Germantown and a discussion of *Trends in Germantown*.

Join us in what promises to be another exciting year! Enclosed is a brief application so that we can obtain some general information on people interested in participating in the program. Since we have limited space, **I would encourage you to submit the application by April 14, 2006.**

I believe that by working together we can achieve many great things in our community, and I am hopeful that the ***Germantown Leadership Forum*** can serve as a catalyst. Thank you for your efforts on behalf of our community and I look forward to working with you.

Warmest personal regards,

Michael Knapp

Germantown Leadership Forum

Spring 2006

Mission Statement The strength of Germantown depends upon engaged, informed and visionary residents who will act in the best interest of the community. Therefore, the Germantown Leadership Forum must identify potential leaders and empower them with the information, access and skills necessary to build a cohesive community.

Spring Session Schedule

Session #1 Kick-Off – *Get on the Bus! Trends in Germantown*

Saturday, April 22nd 9AM-Noon
BlackRock Center for the Arts

- Presentation of Demographic Trends by Park and Planning
- Bus Tour of Germantown Neighborhoods

Session #2 Exploring Community Development and Advocacy: What can we learn from other communities in our county?

Monday, May 15th 7:00PM-8:30PM
Germantown Community Center

- Panel discussion with individuals from Bethesda Urban Partnership, IMPACT Silver Spring, and the City of Gaithersburg

Session #3 Advocacy at the Local and State levels: Where can I make a difference?

Monday, June 12th 7:00PM-8:30PM
The Lodge at Little Seneca Creek

- Hear from elected and appointed leaders what works from their perspective and participate in an open question and answer session.
- Speakers will include: Del. Charles Barkley, Chair of the Montgomery County delegation to the General Assembly; Dr. Jerry Weast, Superintendent of MCPS; Charles Haughey, President of the Board of Education; Michael Knapp, Montgomery County Councilmember. In addition, other members of our State Delegation and County Councilmembers have been invited to join us.

Each session will begin with a networking reception for participants and guests. Light refreshments will be served.

Additional Information

Application Process: Due to limited space, we encourage you to submit your application by Friday, April 14, 2006. Complete the following application and submit via email to councilmember.knapp@montgomerycountymd.gov or fax to 240-777-7989. Contact information you submit may be shared with other participants to facilitate communication among participants. If you would like your contact information to be unlisted, please indicate your preference on your application.

If you have any questions, please call 240-777-7955.

Selection Criteria:

Applicants are generally accepted on a first come basis. Priority will be given to developing a group that represents as broad a cross-section of the community as possible (including geographic diversity and personal interests).

- Applicant should live or work in Germantown and possess a sincere interest in shaping the future of the community
- Applicant should possess a willingness to commit the time and energy necessary to complete the program

Germantown Leadership Forum Application - Spring 2006

Name _____

Personal Information

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____

Mobile Phone _____

Home Email _____

How long have you been a resident of Germantown? _____

Professional Information

Occupation/Title _____

Company/Organization _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

For correspondence regarding this program, please use:

☐ My Personal Contact Information ☐ My Professional Contact Information

☐ Other (please list below)

Volunteer Activities and Community Involvement

1) In what ways, if any, are you currently active in the Germantown community? In other communities? Please list any leadership positions held.

2) What issues are of special interest to you? _____

3) Do you have any unique background or experiences that would enhance this program? _____

4) We will compile a directory of all attendees for distribution at our first meeting. Please include any additional information below that should be included in the directory.

Signature _____